WARRANT IS ISSUED FOR OMAHA WOMAN

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Mrs. McMaines Return as Witness, DA's Aim

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By CLARENCE DOUCET

A warrent was issued Monday for the arrest of an Omaha, Nebr., woman whom Perry Raymond Russo says was present the night he head David Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw allegedly plot the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

The woman, Mrs. Sandra Moffett McMaines, has told newsmen she did not attend the party in mid-September 1963 at Ferrie's apartment at 3330 Louisiana ave. Prkwy., which is Russon claims the meeting took place.

The office of district attonrey Jim Garrison swore out the warrent for Mrs. McMaines Monday afternoon as a material witness. Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. signed it and set bond at $5,000.

It is believed that the warrant will be forwarded to Omaha. Mrs. McMaines is married to a part-time minister and furniture mover, Harold McMaines, 48.

In a taped interview with the Omaha World Herald, Mrs. McMaines, now 22, acknowledged knowing Russo, star witness for the prosecution in the assassination conspiracy case, and said she had once been in love with him. Her maiden name was Lilli Mae Moffett.

NOVEL CHALLENGES DA

Meanwhile, another person whose arrest has been ordered as a material witness in the case has challenged DA Garrison to take a die detector test.

The man, Gordon Novel, 29, who has expressed criticism of Garrison's probe almost daily since he "disappeared" Monday called the investigation an "enormous fraud."

Garrison's office responded by telling federal authorities it will request a U.S. warrent charging Novel with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

Concerning Mrs. McMaines, both the defense and prosecution agreed that she was an important wintess—defense because she claims she did not attend the party, and prosecution because Russo says she was one of several persons there.

"We feel she is a very important wintess," said Asst. DA Andrew Sciambra. F. Irvin Dymond, one of Shaw's defense attorneys had said previously

Cont. in Sec. 1, Page 3, Col. 3

that Mrs. McMaines would be subpenaed by the defense, adding "my opinion now is that she will be a very useful witness.

Some of the key points in the taped interview with Mrs. McMaines included:

—She could not have attended a party at Ferrie's apartment prior to the November 1963 assassination because she was not introduced to him until 1965.

—She refused to accompany two Garrison investigators to New Orleans after they called on her in Ohaha March 8, and promised her new clothes and accommodations "at the best hotel in town."

—She knew Russo attempted suicide by slashing his wrists in 1965, and a friend named "Mike" took him to a hospital and "got him sewed up."

KNEW PETERSON

—She knew "Lefty Peterson, another person Russo mentioned during the preliminary trial for Shaw earlier this month.

Dymnod expressed additional interest in Mrs. McMaines because of her reference to Peterson, saying the defense had been trying to locate him since his name was mentioned during the hearing.

Mrs. McMaines identified herself as "sort of a party girl" when she met Russo on Bourbon st. four years ago.

She said that later she met McMaines here and went to Omaha with him.

Concerning the visit in Omaha of Garrison's men, she said they arrived at her Omaha home about 11:30 p. m. on March 8 and said they wanted her to return to New Orleans with them to look at photographs.

She said the two identified themselves as Charles Joneau and Kent Simms, and she and her husband were wary of them because they "wouldnt' answer questions.

SAYS PAIR 'REAL MAD'

She said she and her husband retained an attorney and visited the office of Douglas County Attorney Donald Knowles.

Mrs. McMaines said the Louisiana investigators were "real mad" when they learned she and sher husband had gone to the local prosecutor.

She said the two men told the county prosecutor the same thing they had told her "about being legmen for Garrison" but, she added, they did not mention anything to him about their offer of new clothes and hotel accommodations.

The county prosecutor told the McMaines they were not obligated to return to New Orleans unless charges had been filed against them. With this, she said, the Louisiana men left.

Mrs. McMaines said she met her husband in New Orleans when he was here on vacation. McMaines said he first saw his wife in a local cafe last year.

'ON SKID ROW,' QUOTE

"She was on skid row, and I took compassion on her," said McMaines who said he was been a part-time minister at an Omaha church for the past several years.

Mrs. McMaines said in the World-Herald interview that she turned to religion and married McMaines "because he was the first guy that took me out and took me to a movie instead of a beer tavern."

McMaines said he lost a job with a moving firm because of publicity surrounding the visit to Omaha of the New Orleans investigators.

His wife said she lost two jobs for the same reason but found work in a cleaning firm about a week ago.

In the new development concerning Novel, assistant DA James Alcock said he sent a letter to United States Atty. Louis Lacour advising him Garrison's office will seek the unlawful flight charge, which will bring federal of-

ficers into the search.

"I think it's odd,' said Alcock, "that he can be found by newspaper and television media and not by the people who are trying to arrest him."

Over the recent weekend Novel underwent a lie detector test given by a private investigator in McLean, Va.

'BIG FRAUD'—NOVEL

Challenging Garrison to take a similar test, Novel said it would prove that the local probe is "one big fraud."

Bond for Shaw, who was arrested on March 1 for allegedly taking part in the conspiracy, was $10,000. Shaw, 54-year-old former managing director of International Trade Mart, has steadfastly maintained that he did not participate in any conspiracy at any time. He has said he did not know either Ferrie or Oswald.

Garrison, who has received both criticism and praise for his investigation, had made only two public appearances since answering questions following Shaw's arrest the night of March 1.

The two appearances were in the courtroom of Criminal District Court Judge Bernard J. Bagert during Shaw's preliminary hearing, once to question Russo and once to question Vernon Bundy, a former dope addict who testified that he saw Shaw and Oswald together at the lakefront here during the summer of 1963.

Shaw, who spent the Easter weekend on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, spent several days in Southern Baptist Hospital following his hearing. His physician said the hospitalization was for rest as well as treatment of a World War II back injury that was given Shaw some trouble.